| INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient. 6. | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|----------------|--|
| Examiner Art Unit 1731 | | Application No. | Applicant(s) | | |
| Examinor | Notice of Allowability | 10/098,530 | VITKALA, JORMA | VITKALA. JORMA | |
| - The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address-All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Novemore (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initial of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308. 1. ☑ This communication is responsive to application filed March 18,2002 2. ☑ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1.18. 3. ☑ The drawings filed on 18 March 2002 are accepted by the Examiner. 4. ☑ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) ☑ All b) ☑ Some* c) ☑ None of the: 1. ☑ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No | | Examiner | | | |
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| | of Biological Material | | | | |

Application/Control Number: 10/098,530

Art Unit: 1731

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Page 2

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art does not teach or fairly suggest methods or apparatus for heating glass panels in a tempering furnace as claimed wherein convection heating elements are disposed under conveyor rollers and aligned lengthwise of the furnace defining convection heating zones side by side in a lateral direction of the furnace. The references cited illustrate prior art attempts to control heating across the lateral direction of a furnace wherein electrical resistance elements disposed beneath conveyor rollers are controlled independently. Also, the Land patent (5,620,492) disclosed quenching air ejectors which were independently adjustable (see claim 9). The quenching manifolds were disposed transverse to the length of the furnace. It would not have been obvious to turn the Land manifolds to be aligned lengthwise of the furnace or to make convection heating elements arranged thus.

- 2. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."
- 3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sean E. Vincent whose telephone number is (571) 272-1194. The examiner can normally be reached on M F (8:30 6:00).
- 4. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Steven P. Griffin can be reached on (571) 272-1189. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 1731

5. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Sean E Vincent
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1731

S Vincent September 25, 2004